29th January 1931]

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I know what the cost would come to, if butter-milk was given to the prisoners ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Notice."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—" May I know if the question of the cost of supply of butter-milk has been included in the report that has been called for from the Inspector-General ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" That point and other points connected with the supply of butter-milk and raw rice will be considered by the Inspector-General who has been asked to report."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—" May I know if the Government do not insist upon the cost of supplying butter-milk and raw rice being the same as the cost of supplying boiled rice ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" It all depends upon the information which will be contained in the report of the Inspector-General."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—" What is the information that the Government want from the Inspector-General ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Every kind of information relating to this question."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—" May I know what the information is that the Government have called for from the Inspector-General of Prisons ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krisnan Nayar :—" The Government have called for information as to how in point of cost it will work, how in respect of the health of the prisoners, it will work, etc."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—" But the answer here does not say so. It says : 'on the question of the supply of raw rice and butter-milk to such of the C class prisoners as are accustomed to them without increasing the cost of diet generally '. It is not what the hon. the Law Member says now."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Yes, that is the point on which a report has been called for from the Inspector-General."

Mr. Yakub Hasan :—" Will the hon. the Law Member kindly see that mere cost alone does not stand in the way of giving butter-milk to the prisoners ; especially having regard to the fact that in so many other directions we are wasting money, why can we not spend some more money on these prisoners ? I would therefore like to know whether the hon. Member will see that cost alone does not stand in the way of the supply of butter-milk and raw rice."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I shall consider the suggestion of my hon. Friend, Sir."

Supply of salt to ' C ' class prisoners.

* 194-B *Q.*—Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the question of giving more salt to ' C ' class prisoners ; and

(*b*) if so, with what result ?

[29th January 1931

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Yes, the quantity of salt allowed to 'A' and 'B' class prisoners accustomed to non-vegetarian diet and to all 'C' class prisoners has been raised from $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. to 1 oz. per head per day. 'A' and 'B' class prisoners accustomed to vegetarian diet are already allowed 1 oz. of salt per head per day.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I know what the extra cost has been to the Government by increasing salt from $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. to 1 oz. ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" It is about Rs. 3,000 ; I cannot vouch for its accuracy, but roughly, it comes to that amount."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" In view of the facts that the Government are not considering the expenditure alone as the prime factor, and that they have already incurred, in the case of salt, additional expenditure, will they not consider favourably the question of the supply of butter-milk to these prisoners without reducing other items of diet ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Let me first receive the report of the Inspector-General. I shall then consider all these things."

Ill-health of political prisoners in jails.

* 195-A *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many of the political prisoners in the various jails in the province have been in the jail hospitals during the period of their imprisonment ;

(*b*) the names of such prisoners and the jails in which they have been imprisoned and the diseases from which they have been suffering ;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that dysentery is the common disease from which political prisoners are suffering in almost all the jails in the province ;

(*d*) what is the reason for the prevalence of this disease ;

(*e*) how many of the political prisoners have contracted consumption after admission into the jails ; and

(*f*) how many of the political prisoners were released when they were in a hopeless condition, and died soon after they were released ?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*f*) The Government have no information.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" The Government say here that they have no information. Will they be pleased to call for the information ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I shall consider my friend's suggestion."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" Will the Government be pleased to call for the information ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I cannot say that now."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I know the reason why the Government are not definite in this respect ?"